Merging Waters United Church - August 11, 2024

West Island Riverside United Churches Cluster

A Summer Pilgrimage with *A Song of Faith*

and Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism

WELCOME / BIENVENUE

People of all ages, identities, and walks of life are welcome.	Toutes et tous sont bienvenus, peu importe l'âge, l'identité ou les conditions de vie.
Wherever you are, whoever you are, we welcome you in love and community to worship.	Peu importe où que vous soyez, qui que vous soyez, nous vous accueillons dans l'amour et la communauté pour louer Dieu ensembles.
Wherever we are, we're close in one another's hearts.	Notre amour n'est jamais limité par la distance.

Please join in the responses in **bold text.**

Keep our worship scent-free! To help fellow worshippers with chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products (lotion, hair spray) if attending in person.

To protect personal privacy, please do not take photos or videos without authorization.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE PEOPLE

MUSICAL CENTERING

Praise God for this Holy Ground
by Pierre Gallant

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gather together, people of God!

Come to this sacred space, this building, these pews, these floors, and this ceiling.
Recognize the work of those who came before us!
Yes, recognize ALL that those who came before us have left for us:
the love of this community,
the shared sacred story,
the ministry in the world we have shared.
They shaped the world.
We are shaping the world of today!
Yes, you have shaped the world we live in.
You've contributed to God's kin-dom.
Now let us explore how we shape the world of tomorrow,
how we might use our worship to bring God's dream into reality,
how we might plan for the future.
We come to encounter the divine presence and to let it transform us!
Come let us worship!
Amen

ACKNOWLEDGING TRADITIONAL TERRITORY & THE LIGHT AT OUR CORE

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HYMN: More Voices # 1 Let Us Build a House (v. 1,3,5 Eng, 2,4 in Fr)

OPENING PRAYER- A SONG OF FAITH #199-230

O Holy One,
You call us into community, into your church created in love.
We pray and…
We sing of a church
seeking to continue the story of Jesus
by embodying Christ's presence in the world.
We are called together by Christ
as a community of broken but hopeful believers,
loving what he loved,
living what he taught,
striving to be faithful servants of God
in our time and place.

Our ancestors in faith
bequeath to us experiences of their faithful living;
upon their lives our lives are built.
Our living of the gospel makes us a part of this communion of saints,
experiencing the fulfillment of God's reign
even as we actively anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.

The church has not always lived up to its vision.
It requires the Spirit to reorient it,
helping it to live an emerging faith while honouring tradition,
challenging it to live by grace rather than entitlement,
for we are called to be a blessing to the earth.

We sing of God's good news lived out,
a church with purpose:
faith nurtured and hearts comforted,
gifts shared for the good of all,
resistance to the forces that exploit and marginalize,
fierce love in the face of violence,
human dignity defended,
members of a community held and inspired by God,
corrected and comforted,
Instrument of the loving Spirit of Christ,
creation's mending.
We sing of God's mission.

HYMN: More Voices # 8 And on This Path

YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 2:19-22 NRSV

So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

APPLICATION FOR TODAY

Song A Child Is Born
Lyrics by Alex Wilder, music by Thad Jones

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Welcome
Statement of Purpose
Presentation of Candidate

Promises of Parents
Participation of Godparents
Congregational Promise
Affirmation of Faith - New Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Pouring of the Water
The Act of Baptism/Marking with the Sign of the Cross
Declaration & Congregational Welcome & Blessing
Presentation of the Baptismal Candle
Baptismal Song

On The Day You Were Born
Music by Red Grammer

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING: More Voices # 180

Sing, Sing Out

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY / PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

THE PRAYER OF JESUS / Notre Père by Lambert

CLOSING HYMN More Voices # 216 Wherever You May Go

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

MUSICAL SENDING Jesus Is the Rock

Tony Congi

Thank you for joining in worship today ♡

MERGING WATERS UNITED CHURCH

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UPCOMING SERVICES at 10:30 a.m.

Merging Waters
United Church

Welcome Grace Service Love
Community

August 18	Summerlea United Church 225 50e Avenue, Lachine H8T 2T7
August 25	Cedar Park United Church 204 Lakeview Ave, Pointe-Claire H9S 4C5
Sept 1	Outdoor worship at Edgewater Park Chem. du Bord-du-Lac-Lakeshore, Pointe-Claire H9S 5C8
Sept 8	Back at Merging Waters!